WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An improved user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device, comprising:

a connection management window displaying at least a first connection icon, the first connection icon representing a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device,

wherein in the connection management window a user can either select the first connection icon or an active area within the connection management window,

wherein if the user selection includes the first connection icon, the connection represented by the first connection icon becomes modifiable to alter the first connection, and

wherein if the user selection includes the active area, a new connection window appears and, upon designating a new connection, a second connection icon is displayed, wherein the second connection icon represents a second connection different from the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device.

2. An improved user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device according to Claim 1, wherein the connection management window displays at least a first application icon, wherein the first application icon represents an application available for execution on the first local computing device.

3. An improved user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device according to Claim 1, further comprising a keystroke management window, wherein the keystroke management window is user modifiable to accept a local keystroke management setting,

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is enabled, a keystroke is processed at the remote computing device, and

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is disabled, the keystroke is processed at the first local computing device.

4. An improved user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device according to Claim 1, wherein the first connection icon and the second connection icon each include a priority.

5 An improved user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device according to Claim 1, wherein the priority is a failover order.

6. An improved user interface for managing a connection between a remote computing device and a local computing device according to Claim 1, further comprising a desktop shell window, wherein the desktop shell window is user modifiable to accept a desktop shell setting,

wherein if the desktop shell setting is disabled, an alternate user interface is selected and the improved user interface is disabled.

7. A method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, comprising the steps of:

displaying an improved user interface;

displaying at least a first connection icon on the user interface, the first connection icon representing a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device;

inputting a user selection, wherein if the user selection includes the first connection icon, the connection represented by the first connection icon becomes modifiable to alter the first connection, and wherein if the user selection includes an active area of the improved user interface, a second connection icon is displayed, wherein the second connection icon

represents a second connection different than the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device.

8. A method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 7, further comprising the step ofdisplaying at least a first application icon, wherein the first application icon represents an application available for execution on the first local computing device.

9 A method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of displaying a keystroke management window, wherein the keystroke management window is user modifiable to accept a local keystroke management setting,

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is enabled, a keystroke is processed at the remote computing device, and

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is disabled, the keystroke is processed at the first local computing device.

10. A method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 7, wherein the first connection icon and the second connection icon each include a priority.

11. A method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 7, wherein the priority is a failover order.

12. A method for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 7, further comprising the steps of:

displaying a desktop shell window, wherein the desktop shell window is user modifiable to accept a desktop shell setting;

selecting an alternate user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled;

disabling the improved user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled.

13. A computer-readable storage medium in which is stored a program for managing a session, said program comprising codes for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, said program comprising codes for permitting the computer to perform:

a first displaying step for displaying an improved user interface;

a second displaying step for displaying at least a first connection icon on the user interface, the first connection icon representing a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device;

an inputting step for inputting a user selection, wherein if the user selection includes the first connection icon, the connection represented by the first connection icon becomes modifiable to alter the first connection, and wherein if the user selection includes an active area of the improved user interface, a second connection icon is displayed, wherein the second connection icon represents a second connection different than the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device.

14. A computer-readable storage medium in which is stored a program for managing a session according to Claim 13, said program comprising codes for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, said program comprising codes for permitting the computer to perform:

a third displaying step for displaying at least a first application icon, wherein the first application icon represents an application available for execution on the first local computing device.

15 A computer-readable storage medium in which is stored a program for managing a session according to Claim 13, said program comprising codes for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, said program comprising codes for permitting the computer to perform:

a fourth displaying step for displaying a keystroke management window, wherein the keystroke management window is user modifiable to accept a local keystroke management setting,

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is enabled, a keystroke is processed at the remote computing device, and

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is disabled, the keystroke is processed at the first local computing device.

16. A computer-readable storage medium in which is stored a program for managing a session according to Claim 13, said program comprising codes for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, said program comprising codes for permitting the computer to perform:

a fifth displaying step for displaying a desktop shell window, wherein the desktop shell window is user modifiable to accept a desktop shell setting;

a selecting step for selecting an alternate user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled;

a disabling step for disabling the improved user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled.

17. Computer-executable program code stored on a computer readable medium, said computer-executable program code for use managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, the computer-executable program code comprising:

code for displaying an improved user interface;

code for displaying at least a first connection icon on the user interface, the first connection icon representing a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device;

code for inputting a user selection, wherein if the user selection includes the first connection icon, the connection represented by the first connection icon becomes modifiable to alter the first connection, and wherein if the user selection includes an active area of the improved user interface, a second connection icon is displayed, wherein the second connection icon represents a second connection different than the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device.

18. Computer-executable program code stored on a computer readable medium according to Claim 17, said computer-executable program code for use managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, the computer-executable program code comprising:

code displaying at least a first application icon, wherein the first application icon represents an application available for execution on the first local computing device.

19 Computer-executable program code stored on a computer readable medium according to Claim 17, said computer-executable program code for use managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, the computer-executable program code comprising:

code for displaying a keystroke management window, wherein the keystroke management window is user modifiable to accept a local keystroke management setting,

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is enabled, a keystroke is processed at the remote computing device, and

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is disabled, the keystroke is processed at the first local computing device.

20. Computer-executable program code stored on a computer readable medium according to Claim 17, said computer-executable program code for use managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, the computer-executable program code comprising:

code for displaying a desktop shell window, wherein the desktop shell window is user modifiable to accept a desktop shell setting;

code for selecting an alternate user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled; and

code for disabling the improved user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled.

21. A programmed computer apparatus for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface, said programmed computer apparatus comprising:

means for displaying an improved user interface;

means for displaying at least a first connection icon on the user interface, the first connection icon representing a first connection between the remote computing device and a first local computing device;

means for inputting a user selection, wherein if the user selection includes the first connection icon, the connection represented by the first connection icon becomes modifiable to alter the first connection, and wherein if the user selection includes an active area of the improved user interface, a second connection icon is displayed, wherein the second connection icon represents a second connection different than the first connection, between the remote computing device and a second local computing device.

22. A programmed computer apparatus for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 21, said programmed computer apparatus comprising:

means for displaying at least a first application icon, wherein the first application icon represents an application available for execution on the first local computing device.

23 A programmed computer apparatus for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 21, said programmed computer apparatus comprising:

means for displaying a keystroke management window, wherein the keystroke management window is user modifiable to accept a local keystroke management setting,

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is enabled, a keystroke is processed at the remote computing device, and

wherein if the local keystroke management setting is disabled, the keystroke is processed at the first local computing device.

24. A programmed computer apparatus for managing a connection between a local computing device and a remote computing device using an improved user interface according to Claim 21, said programmed computer apparatus comprising:

means for displaying a desktop shell window, wherein the desktop shell window is user modifiable to accept a desktop shell setting;

means for selecting an alternate user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled;

means for disabling the improved user interface, if the desktop shell setting is disabled.